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NOTES.

WITH the December number the *Atlantic Monthly* completed its eightieth volume. The October number was a special one, celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the magazine. We are somewhat late in offering our congratulations, but they are as sincere as they are belated. It is needless to comment on the service to American literature rendered by the *Atlantic* in the past, for the simple reason that for over a generation there has not been a single literary movement and hardly a distinguished literary name that has not been well represented in its pages; but we may express our opinion that the magazine has never been more really alive than it is to-day, and we may wish it continued prosperity. It stands up for the cause of true literature as well as any periodical can do that depends on popular approval, and when we have said this we have paid the *Atlantic*, its editors, and its publishers the highest compliment that it is in our power to pay.

NEARLY if not quite all of the papers which Mr. Theodore Roosevelt has gathered into his recent volume of "Essays" (G. P. Putnam's Sons) have been already read by the public in the various magazines, but it is a great pleasure to have them collected. Mr. Roosevelt is, in our opinion, the most thoroughly patriotic American citizen holding office to-day, and what he has to say on political topics always has a ring of strength and sincerity about it that does us good. It would be a mistake to suppose, however, that all the essays in the collection deal with present, and therefore transient, political issues. There are at least three that are of permanent value for their wise optimism and their thorough confutation of certain more or less shallow pessimistic and sentimental views with regard to the future of the race expressed

in books, one of which, at least, the public has been reading with avidity. We refer to Mr. Roosevelt's masterly reviews of Mr. Pearson's "National Life and Character" (which, our readers will remember, appeared first in these pages), of Mr. Brooks Adams' "Law of Civilization and Decay," and of that much-overrated book, Kidd's "Social Evolution." We heartily commend Mr. Roosevelt's "Essays," and these three in particular, to the attention of our readers.

A companion volume to Mr. Roosevelt's "Essays" is "The Scholar and the State," a collection made by the Century Company of Bishop Henry Codman Potter's papers and addresses. The Bishop of New York is an ecclesiastical statesman who manages to keep his eye on secular politics and to say the right thing at the right time. If all our statesmen would study the wise words of this great ecclesiastic and profit by them, we should not be forever complaining of the decline of statesmanship in our midst. All the papers in Bishop Potter's volume are interesting, but we especially commend the sermon in memory of Bishop Brooks to all who wish to learn how broad-spirited and catholic a man the surviving bishop is. Of the political papers, the best seems to us to be the address delivered on the one hundredth anniversary of Washington's inauguration as first President of the United States; but the essays are all worth reading, and nearly all are timely and full of matter.

"Anasaket," the title of a small pamphlet by Mr. Lionel Horton-Smith, M.A., so favorably known to American scholars through his many philological papers already published, consists of two articles, of which the former, which appeared in the *Classical Review* for May, 1894, sets forth Mr. Horton-Smith's views in regard to this interesting word; and the second is a vindication of the former paper and a lengthy reply to the strictures made upon this by Professor R. S. Conway in the same journal for October, 1894. "Anasaket," which is

found on a bronze helmet belonging to the Brittorium Ager, and now preserved in the "Antikenkabinet" at Vienna, is Oscan, and has been the source of much discussion among scholars of the Italic dialects. Many views have been advanced as to the origin of the obscure word, no one of which will probably ever be unhesitatingly accepted, for etymological investigators are somewhat like doctors, and often disagree to the bitter end. In his first paper Mr. Horton-Smith proposes the ingenious suggestion that this troublesome word is an attempt of the Oscan people of Aqua-Fensernum-Veseris to transliterate the Greek word ἀνέθηκε, so often found in votive inscriptions. The Oscan people of this district, coming into close contact with the Greeks in the Laconian settlements, were naturally influenced by their method of pronunciation, in which, as is well known, σ was frequently substituted for θ . In the second paper the author answers, in orderly succession, the objections brought by Professor Conway against the views contained in the preceding paper, and also adduces some additional matter in support of his own theory. As in his other writings, so in these, Mr. Horton-Smith has brought a great mass of learning to his subject, which he has treated in a most scholarly and exhaustive manner, citing so many authorities in defense of each step in his argument that he seems to have proved almost conclusively the correctness of his views touching this word. The entire pamphlet is characterized by the author's easy style, and deserves to take its place by the side of his other etymological discussions. It is, however, earnestly to be hoped that Mr. Horton-Smith will not confine his work to etymological and grammatical investigation, but will again give his attention to literary matters, in which he has been so successful, and write a companion volume to his excellent "Ars Tragica," etc., which was criticized in the last issue of this REVIEW.

Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co. have just issued three little books of value. The first is Professor George Herbert Palm-

er's "Self-Cultivation in English," which seems to have been written originally as a lecture, but may be found useful in its published form by those who need to be reminded that the study of English has a practical as well as an æsthetic use. The second is Ex-President Cleveland's "The Self-Made Man in American Life," which will be remembered as the widely noticed address made by him on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Princeton. The third is Mr. Richard le Gallienne's "If I Were God," a little tract by no means so irreverent as its title would indicate. It is not a profound essay, but the author appears in it to better advantage, perhaps, than when he is pursuing "The Golden Girl," since the woman in this particular case is a sincere member of the Salvation Army who is treated with great respect. The philosophy of the author himself is considerably less hedonistic than that of Omar Kayyam, whose quatrains—or, rather, Fitzgerald's—Mr. le Gallienne has, as we all know, been tampering with of late. If versatility be a sign of genius, the British writer we are considering certainly has claims to be regarded as something more than a mere elegant trifler; yet this is what we fear he will be called in the future.

The appearance of the new critical journal, *Literature*, which the London *Times* is responsible for in England and the Messrs. Harper in this country, deserves a word of notice. It is designed to deal with literature pure and simple, a commendable purpose, but one which is better suited, perhaps, to England than to this country, where we already have the *Dial*, the *Critic*, and the *Literary World*. If *Literature* promised to be much better than any of these journals, it would be in order for the Harpers to import the sheets (though even then we could wish that they would make the dates on the cover and the inside pages correspond); but so far as we can tell there seems to be nothing to indicate that the new British weekly will surpass what we already have in America, and we therefore see no special reason for its im-

portation. It stands to reason, moreover, that a nation of seventy millions of people in a fair state of civilization need not import its second-rate literature from a nation of forty millions in the same state of culture.

Mentioning the fact that the cover-pages of *Literature* do not correspond in date with the inside pages of that periodical reminds us that similar discrepancies are sometimes observed in books. We have lying before us a volume entitled "The Growth of the French Nation," by Professor George Burton Adams, of Yale, one of the Chautauqua books, and bearing the imprint on the cover of Flood & Vincent, the authorized Chautauqua publishers. The title-page, however, bears the imprint of the Macmillan Company, who have, perhaps, taken over the book because the Chautauqua people have changed their annual course of reading. Maps of France are to be found on the inside of the cover, which may, for aught we know, account for the fact that a new outside dress was not given to the book. As for Professor Adams' part of the work, it seems to have been successfully adapted to the requirements of pupils and of the people who follow courses of reading.